

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 27 through page 7, line 21, as follows:

In a particular realization which achieves high purity levels, the process of the invention is carried out according to the one schematized in the figure 4. According to this particular process, an aqueous peroxygen solution, especially a hydrogen peroxide solution, preferably at a concentration of 55 to 65 % by weight (for instance about 60 % by weight), is pumped from a storage tank (1) via the conduit (2) into a housing (3) containing a membrane element, which is preferably a reverse osmosis membrane. A portion of the peroxygen solution passed through the membrane emerges as permeate via the conduit (4), the remainder passes across the membrane and leaves the housing (3) as reject material via the conduit (5). The permeate peroxygen solution has already a reduced TOC level. It is processed by additional steps to further reduce the TOC level, such as an exposure to ozone in the first variant, or an exposure to UV light in the second variant, or a contact with an adsorption resin in the third variant. According to the first variant (exposure to ozone), the permeate peroxygen solution is transferred via the conduits (4) and (6) into a suitable container (7). Gaseous ozone is introduced into the container (7) via the conduit (8). The gaseous ozone is bubbled through the peroxygen solution. The treated hydrogen peroxide leaves the container (7) via the conduit (9). According to the second variant (exposure to UV light), the permeate peroxygen solution is transferred via the conduits (4) and (10) into a housing (11) wherein it is exposed to UV light (12) preferably with a wavelength of about 185 nm. The treated peroxygen solution leaves the housing (11) via the conduit (13). According to the third variant (contact with an adsorption resin), the permeate peroxygen solution is transferred via the conduits (4) and (14) into a column (15) containing an adsorption resin. The treated peroxygen solution leaves the column (15) via the conduit (16).

In all three variants, the treated peroxygen solution can optionally be transferred via the conduit (17) to a column (18) containing an ion exchange resin. The peroxygen solution passes through this resin and leaves the column (18) via the conduit (19) as final purified product, which can have a TOC level of as low as 0.01 mg/kg. It is to be understood that two of the three variants can be combined or the three variants can be combined.